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CITY, 3CDC ANNOUNCE REOPENING OF FIFTH STREET

Block of Fifth Street between Vine and Walnut to re-open Sunday, April 2

Planned detour of Opening Day Parade to avoid Fountain Square construction

CINCINNATI, March 30, 2006 – The City of Cincinnati and The Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC) today announced the one block section of Fifth Street between Vine and Walnut Streets will re-open to vehicular traffic by 11 p.m. Sunday, April 2. "We want to thank downtown workers, business owners and visitors for their cooperation during this important step in the Fountain Square garage renovation," said 3CDC president Steve Leeper.

Although this block of Fifth Street will be open to vehicular traffic on the Reds' Opening Day on Monday, April 3, organizers have re-routed the much-anticipated Findlay Market Opening Day Parade to avoid the continuing construction on Fountain and Government Squares and to provide improved viewing for the thousands of fans expected to come downtown. However, the parade and associated activities with the Reds' Opening Day will close other streets.

As always, the parade will begin at Findlay Market and travel south on Race. This year, though, the procession will turn east onto Central Parkway from Race, then south on Main and east on Fifth to end on Fifth between Sycamore and Broadway.

The block was closed on February 20 so workers could repair and waterproof the section of Fountain Square garage that extends beneath Fifth Street. At the time, 3CDC estimated the work would require approximately 45 days. Limited damage to the garage's roof, which crews examined after excavating Fifth Street, enabled workers to finish ahead of schedule.

Some Metro and TANK routes had been affected and some bus stops temporarily relocated to accommodate the one-block closure of Fifth Street. Metro and TANK will return to pre-closure routing and bus stops on Tuesday, April 4, following Opening Day. More information about downtown bus service is available from:

- Metro (513) 621-4455 or www.sorta.com
- TANK (859) 331-TANK or www.tankbus.org

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